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# Agri-News

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Tennessee Cattle Numbers Reverse Trend

Coming off a year of record prices, Tennessee cattle inventory has reversed its downward trend, inching upward slightly for 2001. The total number of cattle and calves in the State on January 1, 2001, was **2.17 million**, 1 percent above the revised 2.15 million on January 1, 2000. This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. The State's downward cycle began during 1996 and bottomed out soon after the drought of 1999, which contributed to a significant herd reduction. Debra Kenerson, State Statistician, noted, "After an initial sell-off to generate some much needed income during 1999, many producers began to keep their breeding herd to take advantage of sustained record, or near record prices for calves, steers and heifers." Ms. Kenerson went on to say, "The State also saw record hay production during 2000, allowing producers to winter more animals despite poor pastures conditions for the second consecutive fall." Results of the survey showed the following comparisons with January 1, 2000, inventories: **Beef cows** totaled 1.035 million, up slightly; **Milk cow** numbers down 1,000 head to 95,000; **Calves** under 500 pounds unchanged at 590,000 head; **Steers and other heifers** over 500 pounds at 185,000, up 15,000 head. Tennessee's 2000 **calf crop** was unchanged at 1.04 million head. The **number of operations with cattle** totaled 50,000 during 2000, down 6 percent from 1999. **Beef cow operations** in 2000 were down 1,000 from 1999 to 45,000. **Milk cow operations** declined 200 from 1999 to 1,600 in 2000.

## U.S. January 1 Cattle Inventory Down 1 Percent

**All cattle and calves** in the United States as of January 1, 2001, totaled 97.3 million head, 1 percent below the 98.2 million on January 1, 2000 and 2 percent below the 99.1 million two years ago. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.6 million, were slightly below the 42.8 million on January 1, 2000, and 1 percent below the 42.9 million two years ago.

- ◻ **Beef cows**, at 33.4 million, were down 1 percent from both January 1, 2000 and January 1, 1999.
- ◻ **Milk cows**, at 9.20 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2000 and 1 percent above two years ago.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2001 and the change from January 1, 2000, are as follows:

- ◻ **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 19.8 million, up 1 percent.
- ◻ **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.59 million, up 2 percent.
- ◻ **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.05 million, up 1 percent.
- ◻ **Other heifers**, 10.1 million, down slightly.
- ◻ **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.4 million, down 1 percent.
- ◻ **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.27 million, down 1 percent.
- ◻ **Calves under 500 pounds**, 16.2 million, down 4 percent.
- ◻ **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.2 million, up 1 percent.
- ◻ The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots, 28.6 million, down 4 percent.

## U.S. Calf Crop Down Slightly

The **2000 calf crop** was estimated at 38.6 million head, down slightly from both 1999 and 1998. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 28.4 million, down slightly from both 1999 and 1998.

## U.S. Cattle Operations Down 2 Percent

The **number of operations with cattle** totaled 1.08 million during 2000, down 2 percent from 1999 and 4 percent below 1998. **Beef cow operations** in 2000 were down 2 percent from 1999 and 3 percent below 1998. **Milk cow operations** were 5 percent below last year and 10 percent below two years ago.

Cattle and Calves: Number on Farms by Classes, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2000-2001						
Class	Tennessee			United States		
	2000 <sup>1</sup>	2001	2001/2000	2000 <sup>1</sup>	2001	2001/2000
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	2,150	2,170	101	98,198	97,309	99
All Cows That Have Calved	1,130	1,130	100	42,759	42,603	100
Beef	1,034	1,035	100	33,569	33,400	99
Milk	96	95	99	9,190	9,203	100
Heifers, 500 pounds plus	250	255	102	19,649	19,775	101
Beef Replacement	145	150	103	5,503	5,588	102
Milk Replacement	45	45	100	4,000	4,047	101
Other	60	60	100	10,147	10,140	100
Steers, 500 pounds plus	110	125	114	16,682	16,438	99
Bulls, 500 pounds plus	70	70	100	2,293	2,272	99
Calves, under 500 pounds	590	590	100	16,815	16,221	96
Calves Born <sup>2</sup>	1,040	1,040	100	38,796	38,621	100
Cattle on Feed	10	8	80	14,003	14,199	101

<sup>1</sup> Revised. <sup>2</sup> Calves born during previous 12 months.

# Tennessee Cattle Inventory January 1, 1971 - 2001

